

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action mailed on February 4, 2010, claims 1-8, 10, 11, 14, 16, 21 and 23 are rejected. Additionally, claims 17-19, 24, and 25 are allowed. Claim 9 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, claims 10, 11, 14, 16, 21, and 23 have been canceled. Applicant hereby requests reconsideration of the application in view of the below-provided remarks.

Allowed Claims

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's review of and determination that claims 17-19, 24, and 25 are allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's review of and determination that claim 9 recites allowable subject matter. In particular, the Office Action states that claim 9 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

At this time, Applicant chooses not to rewrite claim 9 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Instead, Applicant respectfully asserts that the pending claims are allowable based on the remarks below.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 and under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10, 11, 14, 16, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Ito et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,944,768, hereinafter "Ito"). Claims 3 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Ito in view of Nakano et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2002/0128768A1, hereinafter "Nakano"). As described above, claims 10, 11, 14, 16, 21, and 23 have been canceled. Applicant

respectfully submits that the pending claims are patentable over Ito and Nakano for the reasons provided below.

Independent Claim 1

Claim 1 recites:

“An arrangement for navigation to predetermined destinations within a search area, which is divided up by means of a linear system of coordinates into coordinate fields, wherein, by means of automatic positioning at predetermined time intervals, that coordinate field is determined in which the arrangement is situated, wherein the arrangement displays to a user, who has input one of the predetermined destinations into the arrangement, navigation information, wherein the navigation information includes:

a description of the current coordinate field; and
a description of the next coordinate field for reaching the destination;
wherein the navigation information is obtained directly from a data record in a database without having to calculate a route.” (emphasis added)

Applicant’s specification describes that a navigation arrangement does not itself have to perform any calculations, but may directly display a route from the results of an automatic positioning file and database data records that are already present. (See page 2, lines 27-30 of Applicant’s specification). Applicant’s specification further describes that by using such a navigation arrangement, extensive calculations performed by known navigation systems are not necessary. (See page 2, lines 27-30 of Applicant’s specification).

Applicant respectfully asserts that Ito does not disclose that “*the navigation information is obtained directly from a data record in a database without having to calculate a route*” (emphasis added), as recited in claim 1. Thus, Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 1 is not anticipated by Ito.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Ito discloses that a vehicle navigation system includes current location detecting means for detecting the current location of a vehicle, multiple removable information storage media for storing map information, and a first map information storage means and a second map information storage means for storing route information corresponding

to the current location of the vehicle. (See column 5, lines 10-40 of Ito). Ito further discloses that the first map information storage means stores route information corresponding to the current location of the vehicle on the basis of map information stored in a first removable information storage medium. (See column 5, lines 22-25 of Ito). Ito also discloses that the second map information storage means stores route information corresponding to the current location of the vehicle on the basis of map information stored in a second removable information storage medium. (See column 5, lines 30-34 of Ito). That is, Ito discloses multiple map information storage means for storing route information corresponding to a current location of a vehicle on the basis of map information stored in multiple removable information storage mediums. Additionally, Ito discloses selecting one of multiple map information storage means and reading out and displaying the map information from the selected map information storage means. (See column 5, lines 41-51 of Ito).

In summary, Ito discloses storing route information in multiple map information storage means, then selecting one of the multiple map information storage means and displaying the map information from the selected map information storage means. Because Ito discloses storing route information, Ito must calculate a route. In contrast, the arrangement of claim 1 does not require a calculation to obtain a route.

Additionally, Ito discloses that a navigation system searches map data to determine a route to an input destination and provides route guidance for following the determined route. (See column 21, lines 41-45 of Ito). Ito further discloses that the navigation system includes multiple map information storage means for providing guidance along the determined route. (See column 21, lines 46-62 of Ito). That is, Ito teaches determining a route and provides route guidance for following the determined route using multiple map information storage means. In contrast, the arrangement of claim 1 does not require a calculation to obtain a route.

Furthermore, as shown in Fig. 29, Ito discloses a route search processing step (SA5), where an optimum route from a guidance start point to a final guidance point is determined through searching stored map information. (See also column 26, lines 25-42

of Ito). Additionally, Ito discloses that the optimum route is a route that allows the destination to be reached in the shortest time or by the shortest distance or, if an express road is used, a route that allows the destination to be reached in the shortest time or by the shortest distance using the express road. (See column 26, lines 28-35 of Ito).

Accordingly, to find the shortest time or shortest distance, Ito must calculate the times or distances associated with each route and then compare the calculated times or distances to obtain the desired route. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that calculations are required by Ito to find the optimum route. In other words, Ito discloses that a calculation is required to obtain a route. In contrast, the arrangement of claim 1 does not require a calculation to obtain a route.

Ito also discloses a CD-ROM processing step (SA3), where a CD-ROM in a navigation system is automatically selected for displaying and processing purposes. (See Fig. 29 and column 26, lines 3-10 of Ito). Ito further discloses a detailed embodiment of the CD-ROM processing step (SA3). (See Fig. 30 and column 26, line 66-column 29, line 37 of Ito). However, Ito discloses that the CD-ROM processing step (SA3) is performed to allow the subsequent route search processing step (SA5) to be optimally executed. (See column 28, lines 24-53 of Ito). Because Ito discloses the CD-ROM processing step (SA3) and a subsequent route search processing step (SA5), Applicant respectfully asserts that Ito discloses that a calculation is required to obtain a route. In contrast, the arrangement of claim 1 does not require a calculation to obtain a route.

As described above, Ito discloses that a calculation is required to obtain a route. In contrast, the arrangement of claim 1 does not require a calculation to obtain a route. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asserts that Ito does not disclose that “*the navigation information is obtained directly from a data record in a database without having to calculate a route*” (emphasis added), as recited in claim 1. As a result, Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 1 is not anticipated by Ito.

Dependent Claims 2-9

Claims 2-9 depend from and incorporate all of the limitations of independent claim 1. Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 2-9 are allowable at least based on an allowable claim 1.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the amended claim and remarks made herein. A notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any over payment to Deposit Account **50-4019** pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.25. Additionally, please charge any fees to Deposit Account **50-4019** under 37 C.F.R. 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21.

Respectfully submitted,

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